

## Attitudes toward Marijuana Use in Missouri



For more information please contact the BHEW at 314-516-8412 or [susan.depue@mimh.edu](mailto:susan.depue@mimh.edu)

Marijuana is a commonly used illicit drug among adults and youth. Approximately 45% of Missouri adults have used marijuana in their lifetime.<sup>1</sup> For students in grades 6-12, the rate is 14%.<sup>2</sup>

A survey was administered in Spring 2018 to measure adult attitudes and perceptions of drug use throughout Missouri. Nearly 38% of adults surveyed supported recreational marijuana use, while another 47% supported medical marijuana use only.<sup>3</sup>

	% of Adults
<b>Using marijuana for medical purposes is OK but it should not be used recreationally</b>	47.3%
<b>Using marijuana is fine for people who wish to do so</b>	37.5%
<b>Using marijuana is never a good thing</b>	15.3%

Over half (56%) of those who supported recreational use felt it was only ok for those 21 and older. Another 22% felt it was acceptable under age 21 only if it did not interfere with daily activity.<sup>3</sup>

	% of Adults
<b>Using marijuana is only OK for people 21 or over</b>	56.3%
<b>Using marijuana occasionally is OK for people under age 21, as long as it does NOT interfere with their daily activities</b>	21.9%
<b>Using marijuana at least once a week is fine for people under the age of 21 who wish to do so</b>	4.4%
<b>Using marijuana occasionally is fine for people under age 21, even if sometimes it DOES interfere with their daily activities</b>	0.7%
<b>Other</b>	16.7%

Of those who supported medical marijuana use only, 55% felt that those under age 21 should require parental permission, and about one-quarter of respondents felt it was OK regardless of age. Another 13% felt it was only acceptable for those at least 21 years old.<sup>3</sup>

	% of Adults
<b>Using marijuana for medical purposes is OK but those under 21 should be required to have parental permission</b>	55.3%
<b>Using marijuana for medical purposes is OK, regardless of age</b>	24.6%
<b>Using marijuana for medical purposes is OK, for those who are at least age 21</b>	13.2%
<b>Other</b>	6.9%

Behavioral Health



Epidemiology  
Workgroup

<sup>1</sup> National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2015-2016 RDAS.

<sup>2</sup> Missouri Student Survey, 2018.

<sup>3</sup> Missouri Department of Mental Health, Adult Survey 2018, Special Run.